

Town of Turtle
Boundary Line Committee Meeting
February 20, 2008 6:30 pm

- 1) Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Dan DeLong. Those present were Bill Brewer, Tim Kopp, Mike Schaefer, Bill Walter, Les Oldenburg, Roger Anclam, Jim Fleck, Don Jones, Dan Oldenburg, Shelly Hahn was absent.
- 2) Update of the Boundary Line Agreement communications with the City of Beloit: Dan DeLong explained that there had been some inquiry as to surveying done on Ridge Road. Mike Birkholz talked to surveyors on Ridge road and was told that the City was surveying for sewer, because someone's septic had failed. According to the Boundary Line Agreement the determination of a failed septic system must be made by the Rock County Health Department. if there is a sanitary septic system on the property of a town island that fails and the Rock County Health Department determines that the septic system can not be repaired or replaced, the property owner may petition the City of Beloit with action with the purpose of obtaining City sewer. Having not gotten any information from the Rock County Health Department, the City was taking it upon themselves to survey for sewer. The City Beloit nor the Health Department were aware of their role in the Boundary Line Agreement with the Town of Turtle. Dan DeLong met with Bill Henderson, Larry Arft, the Beloit City Attorney to clarify the wordage of the BLA. Both of the attorneys for the Town and the City are reviewing the language in the agreement. Mr. Arft did disclose that there was a request for sewer service from a resident on Ridge Road. Dan DeLong asked Mr. Arft about the residents paying interest on the sewer service. Mr. Arft sent a letter with a proposal of the interest that could be assessed with sewer hook up.

Bill Henderson said that there are two issues, 1) if someone is having trouble with their septic system in one of the town islands either Lindale or East Ridge, at what point do they have to hook up to the city sewer? The County has the final say as to whether the septic system can be repaired or replaced. It was found, that the County is not inspecting septic systems, that they are taking the word of whoever the septic company happens to be who is hired by the property owner. The opinions as to whether or not the systems can be repaired or replaced varies from one septic company to another. The best the Town could do is to inform the people what their rights are. At the last meeting we discussed that there are new systems available. 2) How much do you have to pay when you hook up? The City's position is that they have the expense of running the sewer line, they have to take out bonds and pay interest on that, and why shouldn't the people who are hooking up reimburse the City for that expense? The Town's position is that if a resident doesn't hook up for 20 years, why should they pay 20 years of interest? The interest payments will be subject to negotiations between the Town and the City to work out what the best interest to the people in the Town.

Bill Henderson suggested that the Town get clarification from Rick Jacobson, Rock Co. Health Department as to the County inspecting the septic systems and determining failure, and that the person is qualified to do so. Then negotiations can start as to what the people have to pay when they hook up.

Bill Henderson agrees that the wording in the BLA says that the County must determine if a septic system has failed and can not be replaced or repaired.

Dan DeLong would like to wait and see what kind of dollar amount the City wants to assess. There is a possibility to pay the assessment right away, as suggested by Mr. Bots of the City Public Works department.

Don Jones said that he has running knowledge about septic systems. Mr. Jones explained that he had a conversation with Rick Jacobson. IN that conversation, Rick Jacobson said that he has not said that those people have to hook on to the city sewer, It's a political situation. That he is reporting that the system has failed and something has to be done. There are other systems that can be used.

Bill Brewer asked if it was a done deal for the City to put that sewer through on Ridge Road. Dan DeLong said that it was not. Mr. Arft had indicated that nothing would be done until the legality of the Boundary Line Agreement is decided. The 2008 sewer plan has to be signed before sewer permits are issued.

Mike Schaefer commented on a person in the Lindale subdivision, who would rather have a new septic system, but the county has told him that he can not because the septic has failed.

Bill Henderson said that the problem is that the people are getting different information form different people in the city and county. There needs to be some uniformity to procedure and direction.

Tim Kopp said that the goal is to keep those people in the Town of Turtle, and that we need to get those systems up and going, and not involve the City.

Bill Brewer made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm, seconded by Tim Kopp. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenniffer Julseth
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer